WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

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1. A communication apparatus comprising:

means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail
data by connecting to the Internet; and

5   means for communicating the electronic mail data
having facsimile-format image data attached by
performing communication pertaining to functional
information in addition to the communication of the
electronic mail data.

10   2.   A communication apparatus comprising:

first connecting means for connecting to a local
area network and/or second connecting means for
connecting to a wide area network;

first communicating means for

15   transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by
connecting to the Internet by one of said first and
second connecting means; and

second communicating means for performing
facsimile communication by connecting to the wide area

20   network by said second connecting means,
wherein communication concerning functional
information is performed when said first communicating
means communicates electronic mail data having image
data attached.

25   3.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if
there is no response to the communication concerning

functional information from a communication partner apparatus with which said first communicating means communicates, electronic mail data is sent to said first communicating means by attaching image data

5   corresponding to the most common one of image data standards.

4.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if there is no response to the communication concerning functional information from a communication partner

10 apparatus with which said first communicating means communicates and if communication by said second communicating means is designated and the number of the other party is designated, said second communicating means communicates image data.

15 5.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if during the communication by said first communicating means a communication error occurs in communication of image data and in communication pertaining to delivery confirmation, retransmission is performed by selecting

20 the number of times of retransmission from a plurality of individually preset numbers of times of retransmission including 0, in accordance with the contents of the communication error.

6.   The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein no

25 retransmission is performed if the contents of the

communication error indicate that there is no
destination address.

7.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if a
communication error occurs during the communication by
said first communicating means, electronic mail data
describing information concerning communication error
information is transmitted to said communication
partner apparatus or a previously designated electronic
mail address.

8.   The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein if a
communication error occurs during the communication by
said first communicating means, electronic mail data
having image data attached is transmitted to said
communication partner apparatus or to a previously
designated electronic mail address.

9.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if a
communication error occurs during the communication by
said first communicating means, communication is
performed in accordance with designation of whether
transmission of electronic mail by attaching image data
by the most common one of image standards or
retransmission is to be performed.

10.   The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the
most common one of image standards is an MH coding
system considered to be essential of functional
information defined by ITU-T T.30, by which a

resolution in a main scan direction is 8 pels/mm, a resolution in a sub-scan direction is 3.85 lines/mm, and an original width is 208 mm of A4 size.

11.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if the form of connection to said first communicating means is dial-up connection, communication concerning functional information, communication of a text, and communication concerning delivery confirmation are successively performed by a single call.

12.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if the form of connection to said first communicating means is dial-up connection, communication concerning functional information, communication of a text, and communication concerning delivery confirmation are separately performed by at least two calls.

13.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if the form of connection to said first communicating means is dial-up connection, communication concerning functional information, communication of a text, and communication concerning delivery confirmation are successively performed by a single call or separately performed by different calls.

14.   The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein if the form of connection to said first communicating means is dial-up connection, a line is once

disconnected to wait for timeout processing in communication.

15. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein if the form of connection to said first communicating
5 means is dial-up connection, a line is once disconnected to wait for timeout processing in communication, and timeout is selectively verified by recall.

16. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
10 functional information of a destination apparatus is acquired by communication using one of said first and second communicating means in the past, a database for holding a maximum capability supported by each function is registered or updated, and, if said first
15 communicating means is to communicate data, the data is converted into a standard registered in said database and communicated.

17. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein whether image data pertaining to said database is to be
20 converted is set for each function item registered in said database.

18. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein if an address of the other party with respect to said first communicating means is input, display related to
25 functional information on an operation panel is switched on the basis of information in said database.

19.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein if a communication error occurs in said first communicating means, said second communicating means communicates image data if communication by said second

5   communicating means is designated and a telephone number of the other party is set.

20.   The apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising means for acquiring function identification information of a transmission destination by looking up

10   a database stored in connection with functional information in an electronic mail server connected by dial-up connection.

21.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein when said first communicating means is to perform

15   communication concerning the functional information, of pieces of functional information defined by ITU-T T.30, functional information pertaining to communication such as a handshake rate, a modem rate, a minimum · transmission time, the presence/absence of error

20   correction mode, and the presence/absence of G4 function need not be exchanged.

22.   A communication apparatus comprising:

first communicating means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by

25   connecting to the Internet; and

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means for sending electronic mail by attaching

image data by one of image standards which a

communication partner is most likely to be able to

process, if a communication error occurs when said

5   first communicating means communicates electronic mail

data having image data attached.

23.   A communication apparatus comprising:

first communicating means for

transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by

10   connecting to the Internet;

means for designating an image format such as a

resolution of image data; and

means for requesting functional information,

pertaining to the designated image format, of the other

15   party,

wherein functional information of the other party

is not requested if the designated image format is an

image format which the other party is most likely to be

able to process.

20   24.   A communication apparatus comprising:

first communicating means for

transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by

connecting to the Internet; and

an identifier for relating pieces of electronic

25   mail concerning pieces of functional information

pertaining to the same process to each other, when said

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first communicating means is to communicate electronic mail data having image data attached.

25.   A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to execute a first communication procedure of transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet and a second communication procedure of performing facsimile communication by connecting to a wide area network, and storing a program for causing a computer to execute communication concerning functional information if said first communication procedure is to communicate electronic mail data having image data attached.

26.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to send electronic mail data by attaching image data corresponding to the most common one of image data standards, if there is no response to the communication concerning functional information from a communication partner apparatus and performed by said first communication procedure.

27.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to communicate image data by said second communication procedure, if there is no response to the communication concerning functional information from a communication

partner apparatus and performed by said first
communication procedure and if communication by said
second communication procedure and the number of the
other party are designated.

5   28.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to perform retransmission, if during the communication
by said communication procedure a communication error
occurs in communication of image data and in

10   communication pertaining to delivery confirmation, by
selecting the number of times of retransmission from a
plurality of numbers of times of retransmission
including 0, which are individually set in advance, in
accordance with the contents of the communication error.

15   29.   The medium according to claim 28, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to perform no retransmission if the contents of the
communication error indicate that there is no
destination address.

20   30.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to transmit, if a communication error occurs during the
communication by said first communication procedure,
electronic mail data describing information concerning

25   communication error information to said communication

partner apparatus or to a previously designated electronic mail address.

31.   The medium according to claim 30, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
5   to transmit, if a communication error occurs during the communication by said first communication procedure, electronic mail data having image data attached to said communication partner apparatus or to a previously designated electronic mail address.
10   32.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to perform communication, if a communication error occurs during the communication by said first communication procedure, in accordance with designation
15   of whether transmission of electronic mail by attaching image data by the most common one of image standards or retransmission is to be performed.

33.   The medium according to claim 32, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
20   to perform communication such that the most common one of image standards is an MH coding system considered to be essential of functional information defined by ITU-T T.30, by which a resolution in a main scan direction is 8 pels/mm, a resolution in a sub-scan direction is 3.85
25   lines/mm, and an original width is 208 mm of A4 size.

34. The medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to successively perform communication concerning functional information, communication of a text, and communication concerning delivery confirmation by a single call, if the form of connection by said first communication procedure is dial-up connection.

35. The medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to separately perform communication concerning functional information, communication of a text, and communication concerning delivery confirmation by at least two calls, if the form of connection by said first communication procedure is dial-up connection.

36. The medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to successively perform or separately perform communication concerning functional information, communication of a text, and communication concerning delivery confirmation by a single call or by different calls, if the form of connection by said first communication procedure is dial-up connection.

37. The medium according to claim 34, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to once disconnect a line to wait for timeout processing in communication, if the form of connection

by said first communication procedure is dial-up
connection.

38.   The medium according to claim 34, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer

5   to once disconnect a line to wait for timeout
processing in communication and selectively verify
timeout by recall, if the form of connection by said
first communication procedure is dial-up connection.

39.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said

10   storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to acquire functional information of a destination
apparatus by communication using one of said first and
second communication procedures in the past, register
or update a database for holding a maximum capability

15   supported by each function, and, if communication is to
be performed by said first communication procedure,
convert an image standard designated by a user into a
standard registered in said database on the basis of
information of said database and communicate the image.

20   40.   The medium according to claim 39, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to set whether image data pertaining to said database
is to be converted for each function item registered in
said database.

25   41.   The medium according to claim 39, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer

to switch display related to functional information on an operation panel on the basis of information in said database, if an address of the other party is input in said first communication procedure.

5   42.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to communicate image data by said second communication procedure, if a communication error occurs in said first communication procedure and if communication by

10 said second communication procedure is designated and a telephone number of the other party is set.

43.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage medium having the communication function stores a program for causing a computer to execute a procedure

15 of acquiring function identification information of a transmission destination by looking up a database stored in connection with functional information in an electronic mail server connected by dial-up connection.

44.   The medium according to claim 25, wherein said

20 storage medium stores a program for causing a computer not to exchange, of pieces of functional information defined by ITU-T T.30, functional information pertaining to communication such as a handshake rate, a modem rate, a minimum transmission time, the

25 presence/absence of error correction mode, and the presence/absence of G4 function, when communication

concerning functional information of a storage medium
having the communicating function is to be performed by
said first communication procedure.

45. A computer-readable storage medium storing a
program for causing a computer to execute a first
communication procedure of transmitting/receiving
electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet and
a procedure of, if a communication error occurs while
electronic mail data having image data attached is
communicated by said first communication procedure,
sending electronic mail by attaching the image data by
one of image standards which the other party is most
likely to be able to process.

46. A computer-readable storage medium comprising a
first communication procedure of transmitting/receiving
electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet, a
procedure of designating an image format such as a
resolution of image data, and a procedure of requesting
functional information, pertaining to the designated
image format, of the other party, and
        storing a program for causing a computer not to
request functional information of the other party if
the designated image format is an image format which
the other party is most likely to be able to process.

47. A computer-readable storage medium storing a
program for causing a computer to execute a first

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communication procedure of transmitting/receiving
electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet and
a procedure of, when electronic mail data having image
data attached is to be communicated by said first

5   communication procedure, relating electronic mail
concerning pieces of functional information pertaining
to the same process, electronic mail of a text, and
electronic mail concerning delivery confirmation to
each other.

10   48.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said
wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.

49.   A communication method comprising:
     the first communication step of
transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by

15   connecting to the Internet; and
     the step of sending, if a communication error
occurs while electronic mail having image data attached
is communicated in said first communication step, the
electronic mail by attaching the image data by one of

20   image standards which the other party is most likely to
be able to process.

50.   A communication method comprising:
     the first communication step of
transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by

25   connecting to the Internet;

the step of designating an image format such as a resolution of image data; and

the step of requesting functional information, pertaining to the designated image format, of the other party,

wherein if the designated image format is an image format which the other party is most likely to be able to process, functional information of the other party is not requested.

51. A communication method comprising the steps of:

transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet; and

performing communication concerning functional information, when electronic mail data having facsimile-format image data attached is communicated, in addition to the communication of the electronic mail data.

52. A communication system comprising:

means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by a plurality of communication apparatuses connected to the Internet; and

means for performing communication concerning functional information, when electronic mail data having facsimile-format image data attached is communicated between said communication apparatuses, in

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addition to the communication of the electronic mail data.

53.   A communication apparatus comprising:

first connecting means for connecting to a local
area network and/or second connecting means for
connecting to a wide area network;

first communicating means for
transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by
connecting to the Internet by one of said first and
second connecting means; and

means for receiving information on delivery
confirmation by said first communicating means,

wherein when said first communicating means
communicates electronic mail data having image data
attached, a communication result report is output which
indicates one of information representing that
communication of image information is successful,
information representing that communication of image
information has failed, information representing that a
communication result of image information is unverified,
and information representing that the electronic mail
data has been communicated by attaching image data
corresponding to the most common one of image data
standards.

54.   The apparatus according to claim 53, further
comprising second communicating means for performing

facsimile communication by connecting to the wide area network by said second connecting means.

55.   The apparatus according to claim 54, wherein when said second communicating means performs communication, two types of communication result reports indicating information representing that communication of image information is successful and information representing that communication of image information has failed are output.

56.   A communication apparatus comprising:

first communicating means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet; and

second communicating means for performing facsimile communication by connecting to a wide area network,

wherein when said first communicating means communicates electronic mail data having image data attached, a communication result report is output which indicates one of information representing that communication of image information is successful, information representing that communication of image information has failed, information representing that a communication result of image information is unverified, and information representing that the electronic mail data has been communicated by attaching image data

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corresponding to the most common one of image data

standards, and, when said second communicating means

performs communication, a communication result report

indicating one of information representing that

5   communication of image information is successful and

information representing that communication of image

information has failed is output.

57.   The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein said

wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.

10   58.   A communication method comprising the steps of:

transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by

connecting to the Internet; and

outputting, when electronic mail data having

image data attached is communicated, a communication

15   result report which indicates one of information

representing that communication of image information is

successful, information representing that communication

of image information has failed, information

representing that a communication result of image

20   information is unverified, and information representing

that the electronic mail data has been communicated by

attaching image data corresponding to the most common

one of image data standards.

59.   A communication system comprising:

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means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by a plurality of communication apparatuses connected to the Internet; and

means for outputting, from said communication
5   apparatuses, when electronic mail data having image data attached is communicated, a communication result report indicating one of information representing that communication of image information is successful, information representing that communication of image
10   information has failed, information representing that a communication result of image information is unverified, and information representing that the electronic mail data has been communicated by attaching image data corresponding to the most common one of image data
15   standards.

60.   A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to execute a procedure of the communication method according to claim 58.

61.   A communication apparatus comprising:
20   first connecting means for connecting to a local area network and/or second connecting means for connecting to a wide area network;

first communicating means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by
25   connecting to the Internet by one of said first and second connecting means; and

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a database for holding information pertaining to functional information,

wherein said first communicating means communicates electronic mail data having image data attached.

62. The apparatus according to claim 61, further comprising second communicating means for performing facsimile communication by connecting to the wide area network by said second connecting means.

63. The apparatus according to claim 61, wherein said apparatus has an electronic mail address registration function of registering an address of a communication partner and, when an electronic mail address using said first communicating means is registered in said electronic mail address registration function, communication concerning functional information is performed with respect to a destination apparatus registered in said electronic mail address registration function, and the functional information is registered or updated with respect to an item, corresponding to the registered electronic mail address, in said database.

64. The apparatus according to claim 63, wherein in accordance with whether the form of connection to said first communicating means is dial-up connection via said wide area network or dedicated-line IP connection,

whether communication concerning functional information with respect to a communication partner apparatus registered in said electronic mail address registration function is to be performed is individually set during

5   registration of said electronic mail address registration function.

65.   The apparatus according to claim 63, wherein in accordance with whether the form of connection to said first communicating means is dial-up connection via

10   said wide area network or dedicated-line IP connection, communication concerning functional information is performed with respect to a communication partner apparatus registered in said electronic mail address registration function and, if no functional information

15   of said communication partner apparatus is acquired, functional information corresponding to the most common one of image data standards is registered, during registration of said electronic mail address registration function.

20   66.   The apparatus according to claim 61, further comprising means for transmitting the contents of said database to a communication partner apparatus, said means notifying said communication partner apparatus of information registered in said database each time said

25   database is updated or at any arbitrary timing.

67. The apparatus according to claim 61, further comprising means for transmitting the contents of said database to an electronic mail server for distributing electronic mail data to a connected communication

5　partner apparatus, said means notifying said electronic mail server of information registered in said database each time said database is updated or at any arbitrary timing.

68. A communication system comprising a plurality of

10　communication apparatuses each of which comprises first connecting means for connecting to a local area network and/or second connecting means for connecting to a wide area network, first communicating means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by

15　connecting to the Internet by one of said first and second connecting means, and a database for holding information concerning functional information, and which communicates electronic mail data having image data attached by said first communicating means,

20　　wherein on the basis of information about broadcast of a database pertaining to the functional information from an electronic mail server to which said plurality of communication apparatuses are connected and which distributes electronic mail data to

25　said plurality of communication apparatuses, said database of each communication apparatus is updated to

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allow said plurality of communication apparatuses to

share the contents of said databases.

69.   The system according to claim 68, further

comprising second communicating means for performing

5   facsimile communication by connecting to the wide area

network by said second connecting means.

70.   The system according to claim 68, wherein when

said electronic mail server distributes electronic mail

data having facsimile image data attached to said

10   communication apparatus connected, delivery

confirmation is returned to said communication

apparatus connected, without distributing the

electronic mail data having facsimile information

attached to said communication apparatus or after the

15   electronic mail data is distributed to said

communication apparatus, after said electronic mail

server completes data reception.

71.   A communication apparatus comprising:

first communicating means for

20   transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by

connecting to the Internet;

means for designating an image format such as a

resolution of image data; and

means for requesting functional information,

25   pertaining to the designated image format, of a

communication partner,

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wherein if functional information of said communication partner is known, the functional information of said communication partner is not requested.

5   72.   A communication apparatus comprising:

first communicating means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet;

second communicating means for performing

10 facsimile communication by connecting to a wide area network; and

a database for holding information concerning functional information,

wherein said first communicating means

15 communicates electronic mail data having image data attached.

73.   A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to execute a first communication procedure of transmitting/receiving

20 electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet and a second communication procedure of performing facsimile communication by connecting to a wide area network, and storing a program for causing a computer to search a database for information concerning

25 functional information and communicate electronic mail

data having image data attached by said first
communication procedure.

74.   The medium according to claim 73, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
5   to execute an electronic mail address registration
function for registering an address of a communication
partner, and

a program for causing a computer to perform
communication pertaining to functional information,
10   when an electronic mail address is registered in said
electronic mail address registration function, with a
communication partner apparatus registered in said
electronic mail address registration function, and
register or update the functional information with
15   respect to an item, corresponding to the registered
electronic mail address, in said database.

75.   The medium according to claim 74, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to individually set, in accordance with whether the
20   form of connection to the Internet is dial-up
connection via a wide area network or dedicated-line IP
connection, whether communication concerning functional
information with respect to a communication partner
apparatus registered in said electronic mail address
25   registration function is to be performed, during

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registration of said electronic mail address
registration function.

76.   The medium according to claim 74, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to perform communication concerning functional
information, in accordance with whether the form of
connection to the Internet is dial-up connection via a
wide area network or dedicated-line IP connection, with
a communication partner apparatus registered in said
electronic mail address registration function and, if
no functional information of said communication partner
apparatus is acquired, register functional information
corresponding to the most common one of image data
standards, during registration of said electronic mail
address registration function.

77.   The medium according to claim 73, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to execute a procedure of transferring the contents of
said database to a communication partner apparatus, and
a program for causing a computer to notify
another communication partner apparatus of information
registered in said database each time said database is
updated or at any arbitrary timing.

78.   The medium according to claim 73, wherein said
storage medium stores a program for causing a computer
to execute a procedure of transferring the contents of

said database to an electronic mail server for distributing electronic mail data addressed to a communication partner apparatus connected, and a program for causing a computer to notify said

5 electronic mail server of information registered in said database each time a database of said communication partner apparatus is updated or at any arbitrary timing.

79. A communication system comprising a communication
10 apparatus which comprises first communicating means for transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet, second communicating means for performing facsimile communication by connecting to a wide area network, and a database for holding
15 information concerning functional information, and which communicates electronic mail data having image data attached by said first communicating means,

wherein on the basis of information about broadcast of a database pertaining to the functional
20 information from an electronic mail server to which a plurality of said communication apparatuses are connected and which distributes electronic mail data to said plurality of communication apparatuses, said database of each communication apparatus is updated to
25 allow said plurality of communication apparatuses to share the contents of said databases.

80.   The system according to claim 79, wherein when said electronic mail server distributes electronic mail data having facsimile image data attached to said communication apparatus connected, delivery

5   confirmation is returned to said communication apparatus connected, without distributing the electronic mail data having facsimile information attached to said communication apparatus or after the electronic mail data is distributed to said

10   communication apparatus, after said electronic mail server completes data reception.

81.   A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to execute a first communication procedure of transmitting/receiving

15   electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet, a procedure of designating an image format such as a resolution of image data, and a procedure of requesting functional information, pertaining to the designated image format, of the other party, and

20   a program for causing a computer not to request functional information of the other party if the functional information of the other party is known.

82.   The apparatus according to claim 61, wherein said wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.

25   83.   The system according to claim 68, wherein said wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.

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84.　The apparatus according to claim 71, wherein said wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.

85.　A communication method of transmitting/receiving electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet,

5　comprising the steps of:

designating an image format such as a resolution of image data;

requesting functional information, pertaining to the designated image format, of a communication partner

10　apparatus; and

if functional information of said communication partner is known, not requesting the functional information of said communication partner.

86.　A communication method of transmitting/receiving

15　electronic mail data by connecting to the Internet, comprising the steps of:

performing communication pertaining to functional information, when a mail address is registered in an electronic mail address registration function, with a

20　communication partner apparatus registered in said electronic mail address registration function; and

registering or updating the functional information with respect to an item, corresponding to the registered electronic mail address, in a database.

25　87.　The method according to claim 86, wherein in accordance with whether the form of connection to the

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Internet is dial-up connection via a wide area network

or dedicated-line IP connection, whether communication

concerning functional information with respect to a

communication partner apparatus registered in said

5   electronic mail address registration function is to be

performed is individually set during registration of

said electronic mail address registration function.

88.   The method according to claim 86, wherein in

accordance with whether the form of connection to the

10   Internet is dial-up connection via a wide area network

or dedicated-line IP connection, communication

concerning functional information is performed with

respect to a communication partner apparatus registered

in said electronic mail address registration function

15   and, if no functional information of said communication

partner apparatus is acquired, functional information

corresponding to the most common one of image data

standards is registered, during registration of said

electronic mail address registration function.

20   89.   The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein if

the form of connection to said first communicating

means is dial-up connection, a line is once

disconnected to wait for timeout processing in

communication.

25   90.   The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein if

the form of connection to said first communicating

means is dial-up connection, a line is once

disconnected to wait for timeout processing in

communication, and timeout is selectively verified by

recall.

5   91.   The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein if

the form of connection to said first communicating

means is dial-up connection, a line is once

disconnected to wait for timeout processing in

communication.

10   92.   The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein if

the form of connection to said first communicating

means is dial-up connection, a line is once

disconnected to wait for timeout processing in

communication, and timeout is selectively verified by

15   recall.

93.   The medium according to claim 35, wherein said

storage medium stores a program for causing a computer

to once disconnect a line to wait for timeout

processing in communication, if the form of connection

20   by said first communication procedure is dial-up

connection.

94.   The medium according to claim 35, wherein said

storage medium stores a program for causing a computer

to once disconnect a line to wait for timeout

25   processing in communication and selectively verify

timeout by recall, if the form of connection by said first communication procedure is dial-up connection.

95. The medium according to claim 36, wherein said storage medium stores a program for causing a computer

5 to once disconnect a line to wait for timeout processing in communication, if the form of connection by said first communication procedure is dial-up connection.

96. The medium according to claim 36, wherein said

10 storage medium stores a program for causing a computer to once disconnect a line to wait for timeout processing in communication and selectively verify timeout by recall, if the form of connection by said first communication procedure is dial-up connection.

15 97. The apparatus according to claim 54, wherein said wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.

98. The apparatus according to claim 55, wherein said wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.

99. The apparatus according to claim 56, wherein said

20 wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.

100. The apparatus according to claim 72, wherein said wide area network is one of PSTN and ISDN.